been set up which also provide necessary support to the persons with Autism & their families, and protect their interest after the death of their parents through legal guardianship.

Development of sick SSIs

*318. SHRI RAJIV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of recent RBI report stating that increasing incidences of SSIs declaring themselves sick is a reason for slowing growth of flow of bank credit to the sector;

(b) whether Government are of the view that the trend may lead to drying up of a major source of financial assistance to the SSIs in the country; and

(c) whether any plans have been formulated or steps being taken to increase and promote the credit and loan sources for development of SSI sector in India?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) According to information received from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), it has not brought out any report recently which mentions that incidence of Small Scale Industries (SSIs) declaring themselves sick is increasing or the credit flow to this sector from banks is slowing down. On the contrary, according to the information provided by the RBI, the number of sick SSIs has declined from 1,67,980 as at the end of March 2003 to 1,38,041 as the end of March 2005. During the same period, the loans from the public sector banks outstanding against the SSI has gone up from Rs. 52,988 crore to Rs. 67,634 crore.

(b) and (c) In view of the declining trend in sickness and increasing trend in flow of credit to the SSI as stated in reply to part (a) above, there is no question of the bank finance to the SSI drying up. On the contrary, the 'policy Package for Stepping up Credit to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)' as announced by the Central Government on 10th August, 2005 envisages a minimum of 20 per cent year-on-year growth in credit to the SME sector, leading to doubling of the loan outstanding in a period of 5 years. Based on this Policy Package, the RBI has already issued detailed guidelines to the public sector banks on 19th August, 2005.

This Package also includes some other measures to increase quantum of credit to SMEs (including SSI), such as (i) public sector banks to follow a transparent rating system with cost of credit linked to the credit rating of the enterprise, (ii) commercial banks to make concerted efforts to provide credit cover on an average to at least 5 new tiny, small and medium enterprises at each of their semi-urban/urban branches per year, (iii) special dispensation under the Credit Guarantee Scheme for all (a) loans upto Rs. 2 lakh, (b) eligible women entrepreneurs and (c) eligible borrowers located in the North Eastern region (including Sikkim) and Jammu and Kashmir, (iv) adoption of cluster-based approach by banks for SME financing, etc.

Voluntary organisations engaged in welfare of orphans and destitutes

*319. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the voluntary organisations working for welfare of orphans and destitute children especially among the tribals in Jharkhand, indicating places and the nature of activity the respective organisations engaged therein and the estimated number of beneficiaries;

(b) the details of funds provided by Government to each organisation during the last five years, year-wise;

(c) whether any organisation has been black-listed during the period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, including action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): (a) to (d) 43 units of 10 children each run by 40 Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) were assisted during 2004-05 under the Scheme of Assistance to Homes for Children (Shishu Greh). 199 NGOs were assisted under "An Integrated Programme for Street Children" covering 44,934 children. The voluntary organisations provide facilities like shelter, nutrition, safe drinking water and health care. The